

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 19 line 25 and ending at page 20 line 6 with the following:

As used herein, “percent identity” of two amino acids or of two nucleic acids is determined using the algorithm of Karlin and Altschul (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 87:2264-2268, 1990), modified as in Karlin and Altschul (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 90:5873-5877, 1993). Such an algorithm is incorporated into the NBLAST and XBLAST programs of Altschul et al. (J. Mol. Biol. 215:403-410, 1990). BLAST nucleotide searches are performed with the NBLAST program, score = 100, wordlength = 12, to determine nucleotide sequences identity to the nucleic acid molecules of the invention. BLAST protein searches are performed with the XBLAST program, score = 50, wordlength = 3, to determine an amino acid sequence identity to a polypeptide of the invention. To obtain gapped alignments for comparison purposes, Gapped BLAST is utilized as described in Altschul et al. (Nucleic Acids. Res. 25:3389-3402, 1997). When utilizing BLAST and Gapped BLAST programs, the default parameters of the respective programs (e.g., XBLAST and NBLAST) are used. [~~See www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov.~~]